29th July 1952]

Government Hospital, Tirupati.

* 287 *Q.*—SRI K. ADIKESAVALU NAIDU : Will the Hon. Minister for Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to increase the accommodation by addition to the buildings of and also increase in the number of beds in the Tirupati Government Hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (1) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The Government have sanctioned the construction of a maternity ward of 16 beds in the hospital.

"(2) As regards the second part of the question the present sanctioned bed strength of the hospital is 31. The bed strength will be increased appropriately when the new buildings are completed and are ready for occupation. The Government will not issue orders increasing the bed strength of the hospital in advance of the completion of the buildings as the increase of bed strength carries with it automatically increase in diet charges and other recurring expenditure as well as claims for employment of increased staff."

Reduction in the daily batta of policemen.

* 288 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the daily batta of policemen has been reduced from Re. 1–4–0 to annas 12; and

(*b*) if the answer to clause (*a*) is in the affirmative, what is the reason for the reduction?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) Constables fall under non-gazetted officers on a pay of Rs. 30 to 44, i.e., Grade XI. The travelling allowance, including daily allowance, admissible to all Government servants, including the police, is given in Annexure I to Part II of the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules, and any hon. Member who wants to find out what daily allowance or travelling allowance is admissible to any class of Government servants can get the information by a reference to that Annexure.

" There has been no reduction since 1949 when the temporary 50 per cent increase was made permanent.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" I am really surprised at the answer to this question, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" But the hon. Member who put the question is not surprised."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" He need not be surprised; I am surprised. The question is what exactly is the daily batta given